

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The instant claims are neither taught nor suggested by the prior art. Cornelius et al. requires the use of a silane treating agent having olefinically unsaturated groups bonded thereto. This fails to suggest the instant claims, currently limited to silanes in which R is an alkyl or aryl group. The Examiner notes that the filler used in Jospeh is a reinforcing filler while the instant claims are "substantially free" of any filler having reinforcing properties. The references cited in the attached PTO-892 all fail to qualify as prior art against the instant claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MARGARET MOORE whose telephone number is (571)272-1090. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 am to 5 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Seidleck can be reached on 571-272-1078. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

/Margaret G. Moore/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1765

Mgm
1/18/12